

REMARKS

Claims 33-67 were presented for examination in the present application. The instant amendment cancels claims 62-64 without prejudice. Thus, claims 33-61 and 65-67 are presented for consideration upon entry of the instant amendment. Claims 33 and 67 are independent.

Claims 40-42 were amended to correct various errors. Claims 33, 46, 49, and 67 were amended to remove the "in particular" language. The preambles and transitional phrases of the claims have been amended into U.S. format. Applicants submit that these amendments merely make explicit what had been implicit in the claims.

Independent claim 33, as well as dependent claims 35-42, 45-48, and 58-61, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 over U.S. Publication No. 2001/0030320 to Budd et al. (Budd). Dependent claims 50-51 and 65-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 Budd. Dependent claims 34 and 52-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 Budd in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,550,676 to Ohe (Ohe). Dependent claims 43-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 Budd in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0127973 to Weaver et al. (Weaver). Dependent claims 49 and 62-64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 Budd in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,777,871 to Duggal (Duggal).

Independent claim 33 has been clarified to recite that "the layers of the OLED are deposited directly on the light entry surface of the light-guiding device (emphasis added)".

In contrast, Budd discloses that an OLED 10 is used to introduce light into a light pipe 32. The light folding means 30 are arranged obliquely to the sides of the OLED 10 so as to direct side-emitted light to the light pipe 32. See paragraph [0034].

Thus, Applicants submit that the OLED 10 of Budd is not deposited directly on the light entry surface as now recited in claim 33. Rather, the OLED 10 of Budd emits light from its side onto the light folding means 30, which reflects the light into the light

pipe 32.

The Office Action fails to assert the remaining references, namely Ohe, Weaver, and Duggal, with respect to independent claim 33.

Further, Applicants submit that each of these references fail to disclose or suggest the layers of the OLED that are deposited directly on the light entry surface of clarified claim 33.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 33, as well as claims 34-61 and 65-66 that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance over Budd, alone or in combination with Ohe, Weaver, and/or Duggal. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 33-61 and 65-66 are respectfully requested.

Independent claim 67 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 Budd in view of Ohe.

Claim 67 has also been clarified to recite that “the layers of the OLED are deposited directly on the light entry surface of the light-guiding device (emphasis added)”.

Again, Applicants submit that the OLED 10 of Budd emits light from its side onto the light folding means 30, which reflects the light into the light pipe 32. As such, OLED 10 is clearly not deposited directly on the folding means 33.

Ohe discloses a device having an external light source 4 that includes a reflector 5 for coupling light into the light guide 1. However, Applicants submit that the light source 4 and reflector 5 of Ohe are clearly not deposited directly on the incident surface 7.

The Office Action fails to assert the remaining references, namely Weaver and Duggal, with respect to independent claim 67.

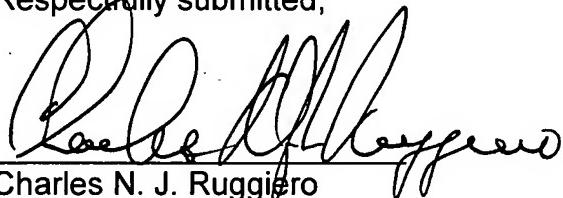
Further, Applicants submit that each of these references fail to disclose or suggest the layers of the OLED that are deposited directly on the light entry surface of the light-guiding device of clarified claim 67.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 67 is in condition for allowance over the proposed combination of Budd and Ohe, alone or in combination with Weaver and/or Duggal. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 67 are respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Such action is solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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